

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

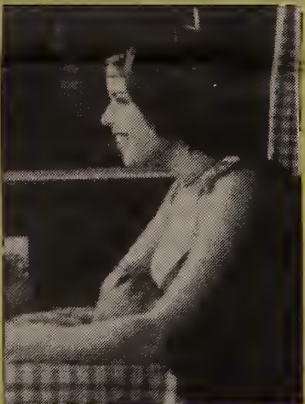
NOVEMBER 8, 1999

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a popular affair

Witmer speaks at Expo

Diabetes gets \$3.3 million more in funding

By Talisha Matheson

Elizabeth Witmer, minister of health and long-term care and MPP for Kitchener-Waterloo, said that the provincial government has invested an additional \$3.3 million in funding for diabetes prevention, treatment and education when she spoke at the Canadian Diabetes Association Expo '99 held at Conestoga College Nov. 2.

"We're not that far from a cure," Witmer said.

She said before she became an MPP, she served on the local board of the diabetes association.

Witmer said she had a neighbour who struggled with diabetes and that got her interested in the disease.

"It made me want to make a difference in improving the quality

of life and searching for a cure," she said.

Expo '99 was the first tri-branch gathering for the Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge diabetes associations.

Over 100 people attended the event, which kicked off the residential campaign for diabetes month.

Diabetes is a disease where the body cannot properly use the sugar in food that it converts to energy.

Across Canada, 1.5 million people have diabetes, while an estimated additional 750,000 have it, but have not been diagnosed.

The disease affects people of all ages. Seventy per cent of the people afflicted are 70 years old and over 7,300 children in Ontario have diabetes.



Elizabeth Witmer said the government is investing an additional \$3.3 million for diabetes prevention, treatment and education.

(Photo by Talisha Matheson)

Woodworking student harassed

By Jeanette Everall

"Carpet muncher" is a phrase that Raine Okum knows all too well. She is a lesbian. She is also a former student of Conestoga College and after her classmates in the woodworking program learned about her sexual orientation, she says she endured months of harassment.

"When the attendance sheet was handed around, there was so much stuff written on my name I couldn't sign my name," said Okum. She said sometimes her name would be crossed out and replaced with words such as "dyke" and "carpet muncher" or the words would be written beside her name.

The class in question was her finishing theory class, taught to first-year woodworking students. John Buss, a faculty member and instructor of the class at the time, said he doesn't recall any incidents involving Okum.

"There may have been some names on an attendance sheet," said Buss, but because he taught the course a year ago he said he cannot remember to whom the comments were directed.

"I don't pay much attention to those things," said Buss. "I mean, I have kids making smart comments on (attendance sheets) once and a while. And if I know who made the comment, I say something, but it happens very sporadically. I don't recall anything directed

towards Raine."

Okum said after it became known that she was in a lesbian relationship, a group of male classmates began to harass her in the hallways and students also called out disparaging remarks during class.

"My biggest thing is that the teachers didn't do anything," she said. "The comments got louder because they (the students) knew they could get away with it."

Rob Murphy, a woodworking student in Okum's class at the time, witnessed the events and said the harassment was allowed to continue.

Dropped out

"Students were warned to not write on the attendance sheet, but it continued," said Murphy who was intimidated because he is homosexual.

The harassment escalated to the point where Okum dropped out of the woodworking program during the winter semester this year.

"Once I started getting harassed, I didn't want to go to school," said Okum. "I wish I could have finished, but because of the situation I didn't think I could."

Peter Findlay, a faculty member and one of Okum's instructors, said there was one isolated incident in his class where a comment was made by a student and retracted immediately, but it never happened again.

He said he wasn't even sure Okum heard the comment.

"Raine was a capable student, but she missed a lot of classes. She was not successful in the program because of her absences," said Findlay. "There was no indication of this incident hindering her success in the program."

Okum, who said the general attitudes in the class were horrible, complained to the dean of the program, Mike McClements, who is dean of technology.

"When I talked to the dean, it was like he didn't really know what to do," she said.

Okum said McClements told her he had warned one of the students who she claimed was harassing her, but she said she feels something more should have been done.

"If it was sexual harassment it would have been dealt with, but because it has to do with homosexual harassment, nobody wants to deal with it," she said.

McClements would not confirm a warning was given to the student Okum claimed harassed her. He said he had a separate discussion with Okum and the person accused of harassing her.

"To my knowledge that intervention resolved the issue because I had no further indication that there was any ongoing disagreement between the two students," said McClements.

There's no question that harass-

ment is a significant issue and it is something for which there is legal recourse for those who legitimately feel they have grounds to file a formal complaint, said McClements.

"I'm not saying that isn't the case in this case," he said, "but there was nothing documented. It was a disagreement between two individuals."

McClements said there's no question on some issues it is necessary to keep notes or document things.

"But I don't recall that was the case in this particular situation," he said. "I really only had one conversation (with Raine)."

McClements said he listens to students' complaints and having listened, makes a judgment on what seems the appropriate thing to do.

"I am essentially here to listen," he said.

McClements said he did not address the matter with the faculty of the woodworking program because he didn't feel it was warranted.

"Where it's an issue between two individuals of some sensitivity, I respect the privacy of the individuals in question," he said.

Okum said McClements advised her to speak to a counselor in student services about the situation.

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Pro:

Applied degrees beneficial to college communities

By Phil Wright

Twenty-three of Ontario's 25 community colleges support the pursuit of applied-degree granting powers for Ontario colleges, according to a survey of college executives Spoke conducted Oct. 12-22.

The remaining two colleges, Boreas, in Sudbury, and Fanshawe, in London, were undecided.

Although the colleges agree on the merits of applied degree powers, there is some disagreement on the method and extent of such powers.

Many believe, as does Terry Blundell, president of Lambton College in Sarnia, that allowing colleges such powers is the next natural step.

Deemed community colleges in 1965, the role of colleges has expanded well beyond their original regional intent.

All surveyed agreed the community that colleges have serviced has developed into either a niche market or a global workplace largely because of the advent of information technology.

Colleges need a global emphasis and degrees offer that opportunity, said Catherine Rellinger, president of Mohawk College in Hamilton.

"We believe the ability to offer applied degrees in some programs would greatly enhance the capacity of our graduates to compete in a global economy and labour marketplace," she said.

Such fundamental changes necessitate an expanded role for colleges, according to a June 1999 position paper by the advocacy association of Ontario's community colleges.

The paper comprised by the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario requests the Ontario government allow a new charter for Ontario's colleges.

The proposed charter would

allow increased authority and flexibility for individual boards of each college, as well as expanded credential powers for colleges.

Given the expected growth of first-year students in the near future, particularly in the year of the double cohort graduating from high school upon the elimination of Grade 13 in 2004, all surveyed agreed that universities would be hard pressed to meet the increased demand.

"We believe the ability to offer applied degrees would greatly enhance the capacity of our graduates to compete in a global economy and labour marketplace."

*Catherine Rellinger,
Mohawk College*

Most students want a degree rather than a diploma and with universities not being able to accommodate all students, colleges can fill that educational need.

Diplomas, unlike degrees, are not recognized in some jurisdictions, thus creating a disadvantage to college graduates, said Rick McGee, public affairs manager of Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie.

Such a problem is even more pronounced for a college in a border city such as St. Clair College in Windsor.

St. Clair's assistant to the board of directors, Donna Desjardins, said Americans don't readily recognize the diplomas of St. Clair's graduates.

"Students have to go through extra hoops in trying to get recognition for their studies," she said.

Conestoga president John Tibbits in a separate interview on Sept. 24, said applied degrees should be initially tested in vocationally oriented programs.

Ideally, universities should exist as research-oriented institutions populated with students who have a passion for knowledge instead of a preoccupation with jobs, he said.

Charlie Labarge, president of St. Lawrence College in Brockville, said applied degrees are natural for programs with a significant training component.

Vocationally oriented programs such as nursing, robotics, electronics and computer programming, are ideal candidates for applied degrees, said Bonnie Rose, vice-president academic at Niagara College in Welland.

However, duplication of existing university programs must be avoided, said Rose.

In such cases, inefficiencies would develop and the value of such programs would be diluted, she said.

Colleges need to be realistic about the pursuit of applied degrees, said Brian Desbiens, president of Sir Sanford Fleming College in Peterborough.

Universities are protective of their territory, he said, and would be resistant to colleges obtaining such powers beyond colleges' original mandate.

Instead of competing with universities, colleges should co-operate with universities by offering joint programs and sharing resources, said Desbiens.

Such a scenario, he said, is more likely than universities tolerating colleges that offer applied degrees.

Universities don't want to run the risk of colleges diluting the appeal of degrees, he said.

Although Desbiens supports applied degrees for colleges, he believes more co-operative efforts between colleges and universities should be explored initially.

Con:

Applied degrees are sticky subject

By Tannis Fenton

The meaning of a degree would become confused if colleges are permitted to grant applied degrees, according to a councillor with the Council of Ontario Universities, an organization representing Ontario universities.

Ian Clark said degrees are recognized around the world as a university credential and changing the rules by allowing colleges to grant degrees would change their definition.

"Applied degrees would lead to a more costly and less effective post-secondary education system," said Clark. "Colleges should excel in their mission, rather than taking on the mission of a different sector."

Community colleges were initially designed for general-level students and applied degrees would create a gap for those students, said Ron Petker, a guidance counsellor at Grand River collegiate institute.

"Who's going to serve the needs of general-level students if colleges offer degrees?"

Petker said there needs to be a balance in the post-secondary education system.

Creating consistent standards could be an issue if colleges are permitted to grant applied degrees, according to Pam Derks, director of research and policy with the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario.

Derks said allowing all colleges to grant degrees would create conflicts with colleges and universities offering similar programs.

"There is a clear problem with blanket permission," she said.

Derks said not all colleges should be given permission to grant degrees in every program. They should be allowed to grant

degrees only in areas where universities don't offer them.

Applied degrees are only appropriate in areas where an industry has need, said Robert Gordon, president of Humber College in Etobicoke.

"This matter is not for all colleges because there are stringent requirements for offering degrees," he said. "A college should be well-known and developed in a particular area of study."

But applied degrees should be a final step in a process, said

"Applied degrees would lead to a more costly and less effective post-secondary education system."

*Ian Clark,
Council of Ontario Colleges*

Brian Desbiens, president of Sir Sanford Fleming College in Peterborough.

First, universities should co-operate more with colleges to ensure students with outstanding performance in college programs are recognized, he said.

"Universities have an inability to recognize college diplomas," said Desbiens. As a result college graduates attending university have to take many redundant courses.

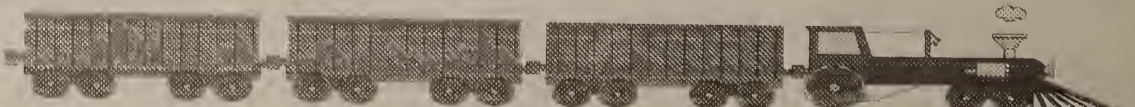
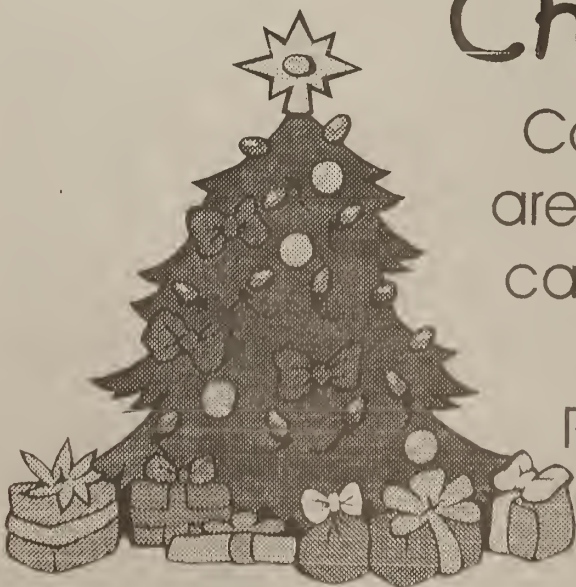
Second, universities and colleges should jointly develop applied degrees, Desbiens said.

"If universities are unwilling to co-operate, the Ministry (of Training, Colleges and Universities) should allow colleges to give applied degrees in specialized areas," he said.

Children's Wish Tree

Conestoga College students who are experiencing financial difficulties can register their child to receive a donated gift.

Register in confidence at the DSA office



DOON STUDENT ASSOCIATION
DSA

No formal complaint filed

continued from page one . . .

The counsellor was appalled that the teachers didn't do anything about it."

Okum said the counsellor told her how to file a formal complaint and gave her the telephone number of the human rights consultant at the college who would assist her in filing her complaint. Okum cannot remember the names of the counsellor or the human rights consultant.

She made the phone call to the human rights consultant, but was unable to contact the person. After trying several times, Okum said she gave

up and dropped the issue.

"I didn't get through and there was no way that I was going to leave a message," she said.

Beyond the dean's warning, Okum said she knows of no further action taken to correct the situation. Even though the situation improved somewhat, the remarks continued and she found herself ostracized by her peers.

"People knew I had made a complaint and automatically I was shunned," said Okum. "No one wanted to work with me or talk to me because of what happened."

In brief

Record staff back at work

By Jeanette Everall

Striking employees at the Record in Kitchener returned to work Oct. 29, after a deal was reached bringing the company's first strike in history to a close.

The more than 100 editorial and advertising staff who walked off the job on Oct. 25 signed a five-year contract recommended by their union's bargaining committee.

Included in the agreement are salary increases of two per cent in each of the first two years and a minimum increase of 1.5 per cent in the last three years.

Depending on the cost of living index, the increase in the last three years could be up to as much as three per cent.

The agreement with Local 87-M of The Communications, Energy and Paperworkers union is retroactive to Jan. 1, 1999.

Speeding up convocation

DSA president Ellen Menage reported to the board that the convocation committee has been discussing how best to announce various awards and distinctions at the ceremonies held each year in the spring.

The problem in past years, said Menage, is that the ceremony is too long and there is a reluctance to add any additional awards to the program.

One board member suggested that awards and accomplishments could be displayed with the help of a power-point presentation.

The idea would allow each graduate's list of awards and/or accomplishments to be displayed briefly while he or she walked across the stage to receive a diploma.

Jenn Hussey, DSA vice-president of operations, said she thought it was a great idea.

"Personally I think it is an awesome idea, but it will be time consuming to program all the information," said Hussey.

She added that she doesn't think the problems outweigh the benefits.

New ancillary fee proposed

By Brad Dugard

Three guests made a brief presentation to the

executive on a new ancillary fee for health sciences students.

The fee is designed to cover the administration costs associated with holding clinics to ensure all health science students have received required shots to participate in their work placements.

The DSA and college administration must approve the fee before it can be introduced.

The fee proposal would be broken down by year and by program so students would not pay for services they do not require.

For instance, nursing students would pay \$15 in their first year for all their required shots, however, a personal support worker (February intake) would only pay \$10 for a TB skin test.

Board updated on plan

Larry Rechsteiner, director of college planning, was a guest at the board of directors meeting Oct. 27.

He met with the board to update them on the development of a new strategic plan, which will provide an overall direction for the college for a five-year period until 2005. He also asked for their input.

The board suggested class reps could distribute strategic surveys asking for input from students and the college community to their classmates.

Parking woes should improve

Ellen Menage, DSA president, reported to the board that the parking problems at Doon campus could be resolved by January.

At that time, she said, a number of students will leave on work terms and co-op placements.

This should reduce pressure on the blue lot, near the business wing of the main teaching building.

She also reported that the college is now working on plans to build a new parking lot near the woodworking centre.

UW student arrested in stabbing

A suspect wanted in connection with the stabbing of a University of Waterloo student Oct. 12 has been taken into custody on charges of attempted murder.

Lawrence Michael Pogany, 20, a science student at the university, stabbed another student after a heated exchange. Pogany has made two court appearances and has been denied bail.

Walk Safe giving aid

By Adam Wilson

First-aid kits are now being supplied to the Walk Safe volunteers to tend to any small injuries that could happen to someone they are accompanying or someone they see in the parking lots.

"I certainly don't see any reason not to have the kits," said Kim Radigan, health, safety and environmental co-ordinator.

"If they see someone who needs a Band-aid in the parking lot, they can give one to (him/her) instead of the person having to come back into the school."

Leanne Smith, co-ordinator of the Walk Safe program, said the kits will be about the same size as a fanny pack.

The first-aid kits are a good idea for the safety factor, added Smith.

The kits will cost about \$20 each.

"Most of the Walk Safe volunteers have first aid and CPR training," Smith said. "This is just a little extra help."

John Pribe, afternoon security representative for the college, said one never knows when one might need the kits.

Preventive measures

"They could really help someone," said Pribe.

Two kits will be purchased for the 11 volunteers with the Walk Safe program.

Two teams of two work a shift each night for Walk Safe and each team will be provided with a kit.

The Walk Safe program runs from 6:45 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. from Monday to Thursday.

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Harris gov't drags feet on gay equity

The Conservative government of Premier Mike Harris unwillingly introduced changes to 67 different provincial laws on Oct. 25, giving homosexual couples the same rights as heterosexual couples.

The changes were made after a Supreme Court ruling in May 1999 that said treating opposite-sex couples differently from same-sex couples was unconstitutional.

The new law was initiated, specifically with respect to the Family Law Act, after the Supreme Court awarded a woman who had recently separated from her lesbian partner alimony payments last year.

Several provinces in Canada have already complied with the decision.

According to an article in the National Post on Oct. 26, a gay man was allowed to collect survivor benefits under the Canada Pension Plan Act after successfully challenging Nova Scotia's definition of spouse. Quebec has adopted a law that provides homosexual partners the same rights as common-law couples and British Columbia, which has already changed several laws, is in the process of converting the remaining laws to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling.

Canada's highest court gave Ontario six months to comply with its ruling.

The premier has made it clear that this issue is not one of the Conservative government's priorities, or even one of its issues.

"The courts have told us we must deal with this...and we'll comply," Harris was quoted as saying in the National Post article.

"Complying" with the law is the only action the government is taking on this issue, and they're barely meeting that requirement.

Harris has found a way to comply with the Supreme Court ruling without changing the traditional definition of spouse, which is what homosexuals are really looking for.

Instead of changing all 67 laws to include same-sex couples, they have added the new category same-sex partner to every piece of provincial legislation that refers to common-law spouses, giving them the same rights as heterosexual couples, but not allowing them to be described as spouses.

Mariana Valverde, a professor of criminology at the University of Toronto, told the National Post some gay rights activists would consider the new legislation a slap in the face.

"It's like saying to black people, 'Well, the Supreme Court says you're allowed to be in the same bus, but you're going to have to sit in the back,'" she told the Post on Oct. 26.

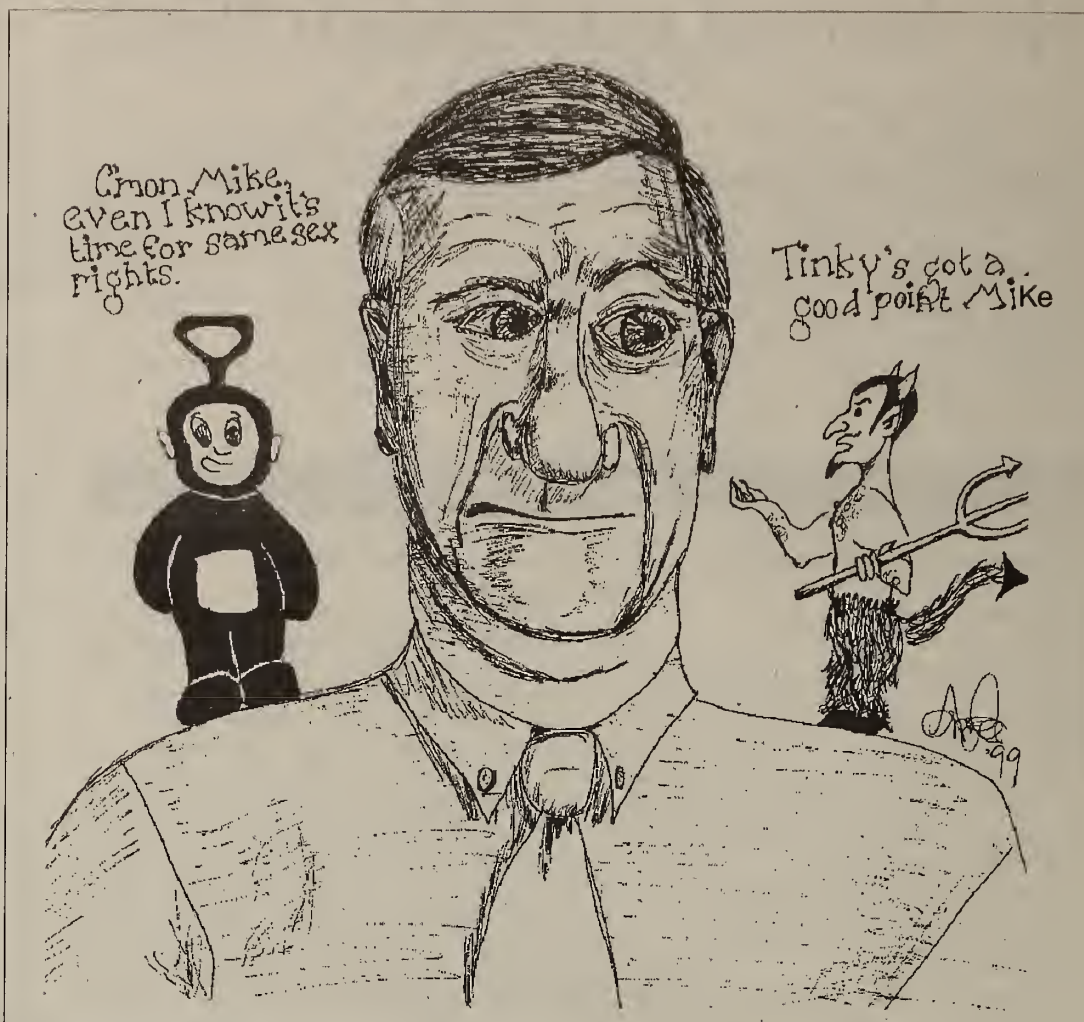
This legislation is long overdue and the Harris government should have made it a priority.

When it comes to treating everyone equally, the government seems to be having a hard time grasping this concept.

Is this government so obtuse that it can't accept people as they are?

It is time for Harris and his Stone-Aged government to accept all people, regardless of their sexual orientation.

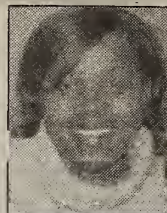
Governments should show leadership, but on the issue of gay rights, the government is not leading the way. It is following the public.



Finding love online

Internet users must use common sense

Falling in love with someone is a great feeling, but falling in love with someone online changes all the rules. The needling question is whether it is true love.



Talisha Matheson

According to CBS's 60 Minutes, the Internet has become one of the most used resources over the past five years and is one of the first sources people use when they are looking for simple information.

The Internet has paved the way for people to meet individuals from different cities, countries and from all corners of the world, by simply entering a chat room.

Many men and women, both young and old, from every ethnic background, surf the Internet in hopes of finding true love.

Their aim is to find their soul mate, the love they've been searching for. They want to find their Mr. or Ms. Right.

What many Internet surfers

don't realize is the people on the other end of the Internet wires often are not being honest when it comes to describing who they are.

The man who says he's a 6-foot-2, 25-year-old, single, tall, dark and handsome man could be four 12-year-old boys sitting at home behind their dad's computer.

The woman who says she's a 5-foot-8, 23-year-old, single, sexy model could be a 70-year-old grandmother in a retirement home.

One may begin to think he/she has found the perfect mate, but many times the other person is having a good laugh.

There are thousands of chat rooms online and Yahoo Chat is home to about 220 of them. Of those, more than 50 are specifically directed to those who are looking for romance.

When one logs online and chats to another person for a long period of time, there is a possibility a relationship may begin.

True feelings may be made known and the "L" word could come up in a chat session.

Someone who says he/she has

fallen in love with an online mate is not necessarily in love with that person.

The person may be in love with the image in the mind of what and who the other person is.

The person has fallen in love with the perfect man or woman he/she would like to be with, not the man or woman who is on the other computer.

According to the International home of Internet romance, an Internet Web site in favour of online dating, meeting someone on the net is no different than meeting someone in person.

They say it is a safe haven where two people can open up to each other and not worry about falling in love with the physical aspect of the other person.

If meeting people online is your forte, by all means let the relationship take hold and enjoy wherever it may take you, but that doesn't mean letting your sense run out the door when what you think is love walks in.

After all, you were a sensible person before you logged on, weren't you?

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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Ancient wisdom



Brian Pearcy, a tarot card reader, looks on as Jason Gamble, a first-year mechanical engineering robotics student, shuffles the cards before his reading at Conestoga College on Oct. 28. (Photo by Tannis Fenton)

Writing contest for the millennium

By Tannis Fenton

The DSA is organizing a story writing contest that will make the winner's first night of the millennium one to remember.

The winner will get a trip for two to celebrate New Year's Eve in Montreal, have his/her story read

on The WAVE radio station and be featured in Spoke.

Full-time Conestoga College students can submit a story about their best New Year's Eve by Dec. 3 via

e-mail (waveradio@hotmail.com).

A panel from Spoke, The WAVE radio station, Breakaway Tours and the DSA, who are sponsoring the contest, will judge the stories.

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Conestoga educates Indonesia

By Walerian Czarnecki

Indonesia is undergoing a lot of change, and it will affect the education system.

A group of 28 Indonesian delegates visited Conestoga College on Oct. 26 to learn about the Canadian system with the hope of improving the Indonesian system.

The delegates were here to learn about the way the college education system is closely tied to local businesses and technological standards, and how the community affects what is taught at the college, said Edy Yuwono, leader of the group.

"We are here to train," he said.

In Indonesia, the education system is moving toward an autonomous state, similar to that of Canada, where there is little government interference in the curriculum. This impressed the delegation, said Yuwono.

The central government has 60 per cent control of the education system in Indonesia, and the local government has only 40 per cent.

"Now we are changing to a wider mandate," said Yuwono.

Ananto Kusuma Seta, from the National Development Agency, explained what the wider mandate is.

The curriculum and education systems will be controlled differently. The local authorities will gain 80 per cent control and the central government the remaining 20 per cent, which will enable the universities to reflect what society really needs in its education system, said Seta.

Yuwono, who has a PhD in marine science and teaches at

Jenderal Soedirman University, said that Canada is a good model for the changing Indonesian system, as Indonesia moves toward a democratic system.

"Indonesia is decentralizing," said Seta, "as is the political system."

The delegation wants to achieve five objectives to improve their system. The five objectives, under the acronym RAISE, are relevance, academic atmosphere, internal management, sustainability and efficiency and effectiveness. These areas relate to curriculum control and design, professor qualifications and economic factors, said Yuwono.

"We have seen a lot of these here," he said.

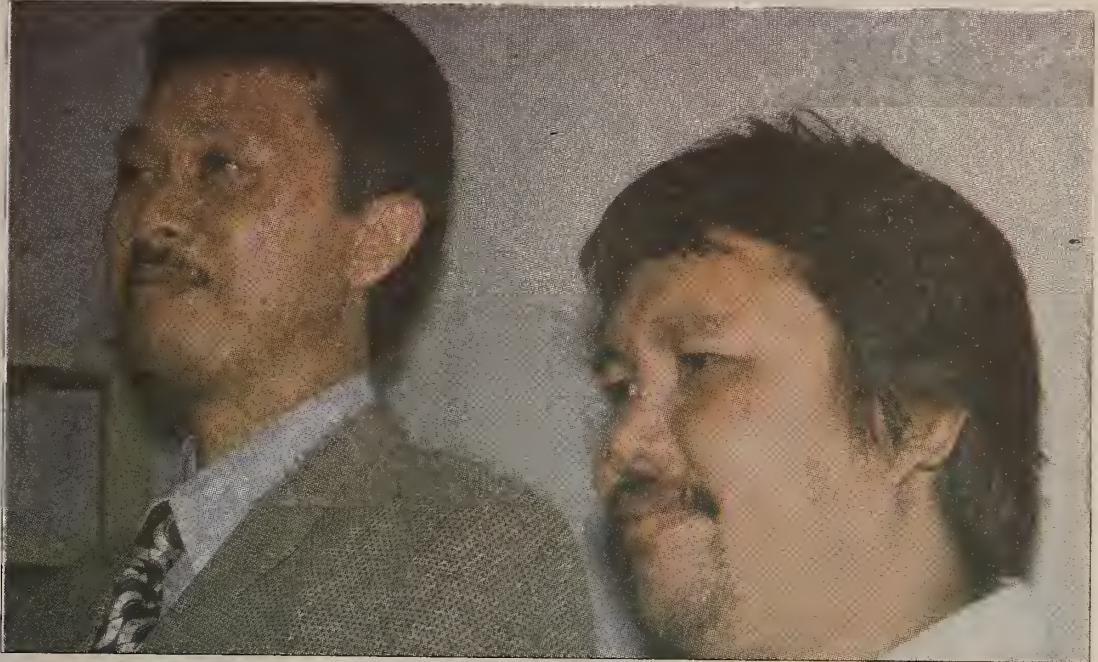
One of the topics discussed was fund-raising.

Many fund-raisers come to potential donors and ask that they get money for the reputation they hold, said Conestoga College president John Tibbits. He cited examples of schools like Harvard, which have such a good standing in the community that the community will donate to those institutions based on their reputation.

"What we have done is a lot of networking in the community," said Tibbits. "We get very involved in the community."

Tibbits advised the group to develop partnerships with companies in the community, based on what can be accomplished that could benefit both institutions.

These partnerships have benefited Conestoga College in many ways, as the community has more influence with the college, said Tibbits.



Ananto Kusuma Seta (left) and Edy Yuwono were two of the 28 Indonesian delegates who visited Conestoga College to learn about Canada's education system. (Photo by Walerian Czarnecki)

"You have to develop partnerships and relationships with others," he said. "It's hard to go and ask someone for a million dollars; it's much easier if you're known and what you're doing is known. You have to meet other people's needs, which meet yours too."

There are several advantages of the Indonesian system in meeting the needs of students. They include how inexpensive education is for the students, the cheap living expenses in Indonesia, and the 1:10 professor/students ratio, said Seta.

"However, our faculty members mostly have no sufficient qualifications," said Seta. "It is 30 per cent PhD and 70 per cent Masters. By 2015 we would like to have 80 per cent PhDs."

With all the improvements the delegation wants to achieve under RAISE, they still want to keep it cost-efficient for the students, said Seta.

Many students can go to

Indonesia to study culture because it is inexpensive, said Yuwono.

"We are interested in Canadian students coming here for credits and visa-versa," he said. "We call it a sandwich, two school systems."

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Mathew DiSero

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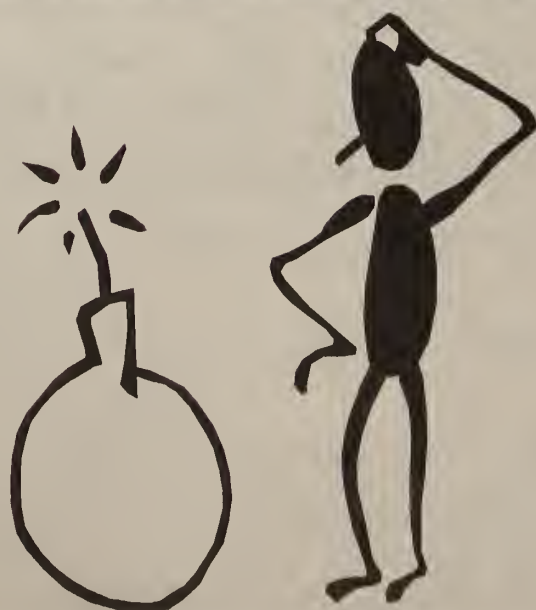
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Stress Management Workshop



Wednesday, November 24

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Room 2D16

Learn about:

- ◆ recognizing your reaction to stress
- ◆ symptoms of stress exhaustion
- ◆ ways to deal with stress

Inventor having a ball

By Talisha Matheson

A Waterloo man has earned the Young Entrepreneur's award for Ontario this year with his creation of the Radar Ball, a unique baseball that times the speed of a pitch.

David Zakutin, 27, is the president of Zakutin Technologies Incorporated, a Waterloo-based company that produces and sells the Radar Ball.

The ball is a sensitive device that tracks the speed of a pitch from the time it leaves the pitcher's hand until it hits the catcher's glove.

It is a regular baseball with a hole cut through it where the radar and a battery are placed.

Zakutin received a bachelor of applied science degree from the University of Waterloo in 1996 and began his company while finishing his degree.

"I probably aged more than 10 years in those five years," he said.

He admitted to being a bad student, sometimes not attending his

classes because he was working on his business.

The dream of inventing the Radar Ball began while Zakutin was still in high school when he did not want to go back to the same summer job he had the year before.

He said he created the first Radar Ball while he was in high school, but never got far enough to sell them.

"I thought maybe I could create an electronic device and sell 100 of them to my friends and make some money," he said.

He said he liked inventing things as a small child and made wooden sailboats and worked with Lego blocks before he mastered power tools.

Zakutin said he has always been interested in seeing how things worked.

"I get a thrill out of building something the world hasn't had before."

He likes to consider himself more of an artist than an engineer.

One major obstacle he had to overcome was the lack of money.

"When you're starting a fresh business out of school, you don't have any," he said.

He advises new technology students and those who are almost finished college or university to take a look at what's happening in society.

"They have to realize there aren't jobs waiting for them after they graduate," Zakutin said. Students have to start thinking of opportunities for themselves, he said. They should also pick a specialty before getting out into the world.

"They need to learn more than they are taught," Zakutin said.

Being the man behind the Radar Ball is a great feeling, he said, especially since there are major league baseball clubs using his device.

"One of the reasons why I got into this particular area is because even though inventing is kind of boring, I realized earlier on that I could not be a rock and roll star."

Zakutin said he figured he could make life interesting because there was room to be a recognized inventor in society.

"Hopefully there will be some glamour in this job in the future," he said.

In 1998, the Radar Ball was named Sporting Good product of the year.

Zakutin said the award was important for the product and afterwards he received plenty of recognition.

Zakutin said one Radar Ball costs about \$35. It is available in the United States in such stores as

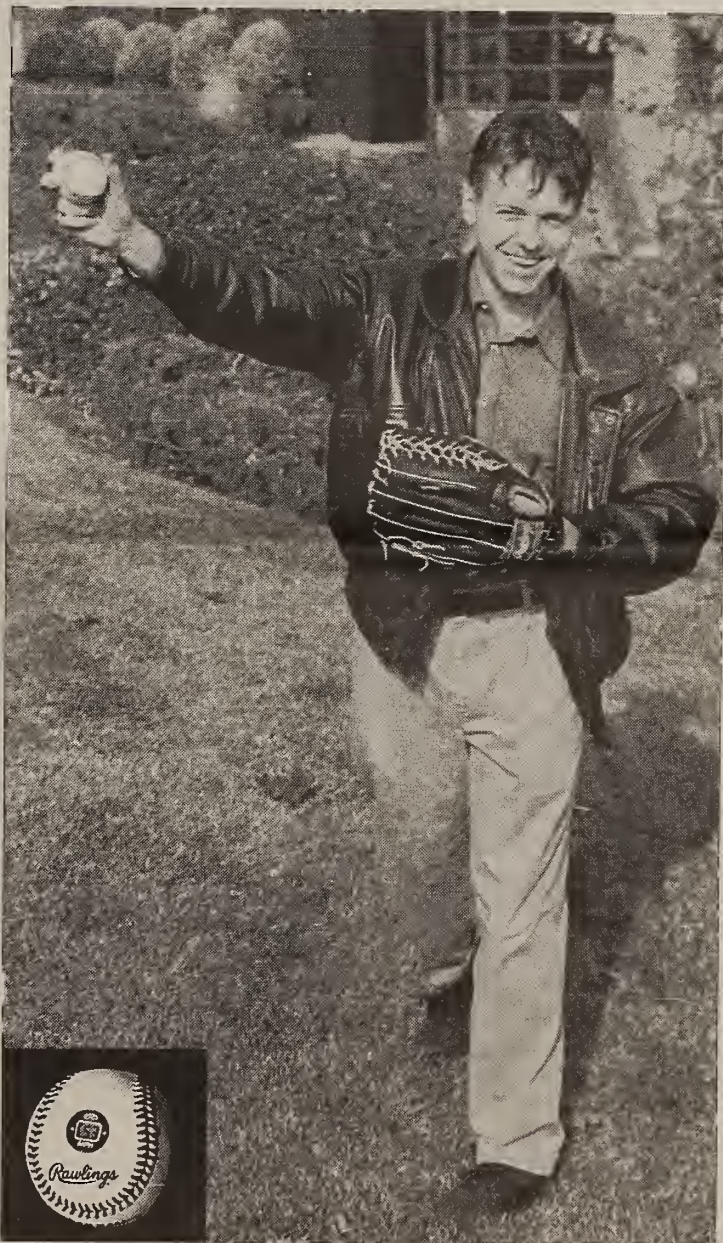
Wal-Mart.

He said only about 1,000 balls have crossed the border into Canada. Canadian Wal-Mart stores might have the opportunity to carry the Radar Ball next year.

Now that the ball has been created, Zakutin has another idea up his sleeve.

His next invention, due out in January or February 2000, has something to do with the cleaning of disposable contact lenses.

In one word, Zakutin describes his accomplishments as "formidable."



David Zakutin practises his pitch with his Radar Ball invention.
(Photo by Talisha Matheson)

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Quitting

"I don't want to be here!" Many students, exhausted by workload and weather and discouraged by borderline marks, consider leaving college. Counsellors see many students who want out and hope to return later. But is "out there" any better? Quitting does not solve a financial shortfall or make the course work any easier the next time.

Leaving causes other problems. A sudden void is created in the student's life. Jobs are elusive. Contact is lost with school friends who form a natural community of support. Returning to school seems a monumental task.

This is not a "carry on at all costs" message. Rather, know the costs and consider all alternatives carefully. Consider options other than withdrawal from a program:

- Drop a course which is not salvageable and pick it up later.
- Consult your instructor before conceding defeat.
- Pick up a failed course through Continuing Education evening or summer classes.
- Negotiate with the program chair for partial load. Better to save a few than lose all.
- Apply for Peer Tutoring. The cost to the student is minimal and it works.
- Considering transferring to another program within your school.
- Communicate with a peer or faculty with whom you are having difficulty.
- Request a leave of absence (Health Sciences).
- Ask for help from faculty or classmates.
- Seek temporary shelter if home has become untenable. Community resources are listed in Student Services.
- See your doctor. A sudden decline in energy may indicate treatable illness.
- Take off a day or two to deal with grief or personal loss. Everyone is entitled to a "personal" absence now and then.

These and many other solutions have been explored by students with a counsellor. We are here to listen and help when you have run out of ideas. Most find they can get through with a little support or leave with a plan for completing their education.

A Message from Student Services (Room 2B02)

JOB FAIR

The Lyric Night Club & Metropolis are now hiring Servers, Security, Support Staff, DJ's & Promoters. Apply in person w/Resume @ THE LYRIC located at 122 King St. West on Tuesday November 9th from 3 - 6 pm. To book Special Events or Trips, Call 749-2121

Sports
Page 12

Remembrance Day Service

In the Sanctuary

Thurs. Nov. 11



Volunteers Needed

See Steve in
The DSA office

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP

Would you like to:

- Meet new people?
- Learn more about Canadian culture?
- Share information about your own culture?
- Discuss issues related to being in a new country?



Sign up at Student Services (Room 2B02) for one of the following group times. Future group meeting times will be decided after the first session.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

9:30 - 10:30 A.M.

THURSDAY, NOV. 11

3:30 - 4:30 P.M.

Facilitators: Lynn Robbins and Shawna Bernard, Student Services

Get the facts, then get the vax

HEPATITIS B VACCINE CLINIC

Wed. Nov. 17

& Tues. Nov. 18

9:00am - 4:00pm

The Blue Cafe

Only \$20/shot - \$60 for the series of 3 shots

The shots are covered under the DSA

Prescription Drug Plan for \$4/shot

In The Sanctuary MOVIE OF THE WEEK

Starts at 11:30pm
Monday November 8



GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR

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Fordham U.
Michigan State - Law
Michigan Tech
National Chiropractic
New England Optometry
Rensselaer Polytechnic
Rochester Inst. of Technology
Simmons College
Texas A&M. Bush School
Thomas M. Cooley Law School
Tulane U. Law School
U. Bristol, England
U. Glasgow, Scotland
London Sch. of Pharmacy, U.K.
U. of Notre Dame
U. @ Buffalo
U. of Iowa
U. Penn Law School
U. of San Diego
U. of Strathclyde, Scotland
U. of Waikato, New Zealand
Wayne State U.
Worcester Polytechnic

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Mon. Nov. 15, 5 pm - 8:30 pm

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We'll have you begging for more!!

GRUB CRAWL '99

Wed. Nov. 17



Sign up in the office

Tango deals with '90s romance

By Tannis Fenton

Three to Tango deals with love triangles, professional struggles and, more importantly, illustrates the experience of someone coming out of the closet he was never in.

Oscar Novak, played by Matthew Perry, shows what it would be like to be labelled with the wrong sexual orientation.

Architect Novak and his business partner, Peter Steinberg, played by Oliver Platt, are trying to land a multi-million dollar contract with business tycoon Charles Newman, played by Dylan McDermott.

In an odd sequence of misunderstandings, Newman comes to the conclusion that Novak is gay and assigns him the task of spying on his mistress Amy Post, played by Neve Campbell.

Three to Tango is an entertaining film that doesn't require a lot of analyzing.

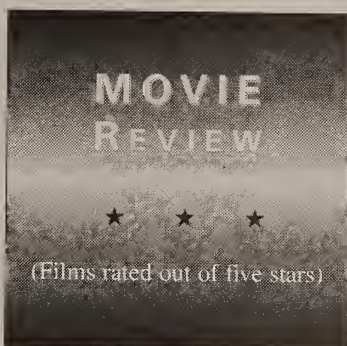
Novak falls for Post, who is an eccentric glass artist, during the first night of his assignment. From a broken-down taxicab to a bad case of food poisoning, the star-crossed pair manages to romantically connect.

That is, until Novak realizes Post believes he's gay. From that point, Novak must pretend to be gay so he doesn't jeopardize his and his partner's chances for their big break in architecture.

Before he knows it, Novak comes out larger than life through an article in the Chicago Tribune and he must face the associated questions from his family and friends.

But, as Novak soon realizes, being gay does have its advantages, especially for a straight man.

He is exposed to the mysterious world of women, which few men have seen, when Novak and Post become roommates.



Novak faces the age-old challenge of deciding between love and money as he struggles with watching his heart's thief shower her affections on another man even though his career is taking off.

Perry's acting is genuine and he makes his character sincere.

His comedic talent is well defined, but his dramatic scenes lack depth as he tends to come across as cheesy.

There are striking similarities between Novak and Chandler Bing, Perry's character on the TV sitcom Friends.

Campbell is surprisingly believable as an artistic mistress.

She makes the chemistry between Novak and Post work well. Her dramatic abilities, which were fine-tuned on her TV series Party of Five, help to override Perry's lack.

McDermott (The Practice) and Platt (Bulworth) add tremendously to the effectiveness of the film.

Platt's character makes some hilarious diversions and McDermott's character's stiff demeanor helps to maintain balance.

Damon Santostefano, who directed Severed Ties, could have used fewer sappy musical sequences and some of the scenes come across as over dramatic.

The film's scenery is breathtaking at times when spectacular images of the bustling streets of Chicago are shown from a helicopter.

Overall, Three to Tango is an entertaining film that doesn't require a lot of analysing on the part of the audience.

The cast, script and directing will leave viewers satisfied.



Neve Campbell and Dylan McDermott gaze into each other's eyes in the Warner Bros.' new offbeat romantic comedy, Three to Tango. The movie is currently playing at Silver City, Cineplex Odeon and Cambridge Centre Cinemas

(Photo submitted)



Conestoga College Bookstore

JACKET DAY

Jacket Fitting and Orders Taken on
Tuesday, November 9/99
Doon Campus - Main Cafeteria
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Melton & Leather Jacket

\$175.00

Price includes front crest, quilt lining, choice of colour, grad year on arm, name or program name on arm, and choice of collar

All Leather Jacket

\$275.00

PLUS

Stadium Jacket & Nylon Jacket

\$69.00

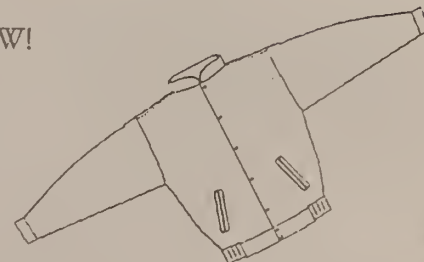
\$49.00

Price includes front logo, embroidered name & grad year on arm, (additional letters on reverse are extra)

DEPOSIT OF 60% DUE AT TIME OF ORDER

ADDITIONAL CRESTING OPTIONS AND TAXES ARE EXTRA

ORDER NOW!



Matthew Perry and Neve Campbell share a romantic moment in Three to Tango, while meeting for the first time.

(Photo submitted)



Conestoga's men's soccer team finished their season in fourth place in the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association after losing 6-3 to Durham College in the bronze medal game of the finals.

Correction

The information in the article by Jody Andruszkiewicz written on Oct. 25 "DSA, athletic council must promote sports" was not gathered from a formal meeting, but from individual interviews. Spoke apologizes for the error.

Letters to the Editor

Spoke welcomes topical letters that include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification.
All letters must be signed.
No e-mail letters will be accepted.

Sports roundup:
Soccer season ends

By Nicole Furlong

Conestoga College's varsity results for the week of Oct. 25 - 30 are as follows:

Hockey

Conestoga's men's hockey team took a tough 6-4 loss to Sault College in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 29.

With 77 penalty minutes and biased convening on the referees' part, Conestoga was defeated in their second league game of the season.

Home-team goal scorers were Greg Thede, Jon Suckert and Darrell Woodley with two.

Assists were made by Brad Marshall, Woodley and Ian MacDonald with two.

Conestoga's next home game is on Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. against Seneca.

On Nov. 3 the team was defeated 5-3 by the Humber Hawks.

Home-team scorers were Kyle Boulton and Darrell Woodley with two.

Soccer

The Condors' men's soccer team finished off their 1999 season with an unfortunate 6-3 loss to Durham College in the bronze medal game of the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association championships on Oct. 30.

Overall, the team finished in fourth position in the OCAA, which is excellent according to Ian James, Conestoga's athletic director.

"There is such competition in soccer," he said. "To get to the final four is extremely good."

Goal scorers were Paul Mouradian, Ilias Tsatsas and Shaun Samuels.

Students register
for intramurals

By Jody Andruszkiewicz

Conestoga College students geared themselves up for Session 2 of intramural athletics. Students registered in volleyball, ball hockey and full-contact ice hockey on Oct. 20.

Full-contact ice hockey is one of the most popular sports to be run by the college's intramural program. Because ice time is very limited, only six teams could be accommodated in the league, which plays on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The league filled up immediately after registration began.

Volleyball, which will run on Wednesday nights was split into competitive and non-competitive. While bump, set and spike is an important part of the game, for league participants, getting out and having a good time is the goal

of the program.

Ball hockey will run on Monday and Tuesday nights in the gym. With the entire surface being used, participants are getting a workout.

Unlike ice hockey, ball hockey is strictly non-contact. While the competition is intense, players also realize that they are there just to have fun and maybe score the winning goal.

As this session moves towards Christmas and exams, participants are urged to come out and relieve their stress on the courts rather than in front of a textbook.

Campus recreation activities are a great way to take one's mind off the real world for a little while.

Jody Andruszkiewicz is a member of the Student Athletic Council and a first-semester journalism student.

WWF BUS TRIP
Sat. Nov. 20
Tickets \$45
Permitted 1 guest
Includes transportation
Purchase your ticket
at the DSA office

DOON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

STUDENT SERVICES WORKSHOPS

FALL 1999

THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS DO NOT REQUIRE ANY SIGN UP.

TOPIC	DATE	TIME	ROOM
TIPS ON MAKING PRESENTATIONS	MON. NOV. 1	11:30 - 12:30	3A620
	THURS. NOV. 4	12:30 - 1:30	1D17
STRESS MANAGEMENT	WED. NOV. 23	3:30 - 5:00	2D16
PREPARING FOR FINAL EXAMS	MON. NOV. 29	11:30 - 12:30	3A620
	THURS. DEC. 2	12:30 - 1:30	1D17
	MON. DEC. 6	12:30 - 1:30	2A411

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING FORMAT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE COME TO STUDENT SERVICES.

GAY, LESBIAN, AND BISEXUAL DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING
-Please see Barb Kraler in Student Services

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP
-Wednesday, November 3, 1999 @ 9:30 -10:30 a.m.
-Sign up in Student Services -Room 2B02
-Please see Lynn Robbins or Shawna Bernard in Student Services for more information

Attention Condor fans!
Read Spoke for indepth
hockey coverage